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COUNTRY <u>Bulgaria</u>	REPORT NO. _____	50X1-HUM
TOPIC <u>Weather Service of the Bulgarian Air Force</u>		
EVALUATION _____	PLACE OBTAINED _____	50X1-HUM
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REMARKS _____		50X1-HUM
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1. The Central Weather Bureau of the Bulgarian Air Force is located in the premises of the High Command of the Air Force in SOFIA. Some offices are in the Barracks of the former 6th Inf Regt. Its chief was SAVOV, a civilian, with the rank and pay of a colonel. SAVOV's deputy was Stefan STEFANOV, a Communist.

2. Personnel of the Weather Service:

a. Aerologists studied at the Physics and Mathematics Department of the university, attended the reserve officer school of the Air Force and a special course for aerologists in the meteorological class of the Air Force Technical School. This theoretical training was supplemented by a practical course at the Central Meteorological Station or at one of the first class airfields.

b. Meteorologists had to be high school graduates, they later served their military term of service, attended the NCO section at the Air Force Technical School in LOVECH (B 2/G 50) (meteorological class), and from there were detached for practical work to the weather stations at the airfields.

c. Meteorological observers were not required to have a high school education, but otherwise were subject to the same training as the meteorologists. They held NCO ranks.

3. Subsidiary Weather Stations:

- a. Weather stations at first and second class airfields,
- b. Weather posts at third class airfields,
- c. Weather observation posts on top of the following mountains:
 MUSALLA (B 11/E 51)
 CHEPNI VRH (B 1/E 35)
 YUMUKCHAL (B 3/W 65)

4. The meteorological personnel had the same privileges, duties, insignia and pay as the corresponding military ranks. They wore pilot's bordered epaulets.

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50X1-HUM

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 13 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
 Next Review Date: 2033

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☒ Declassified
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5. First Class Airfields:

These airfields which are permanently occupied by major units such as at PLONIV (B 12/A 40) and BUSHUNIE (B 1/L 26). They are occupied by one aerologist, one or two meteorologists, and several meteorological observers. The weather stations were equipped with modern German instruments, including anemometers, barometers, and weather balloons. Weather reports were transmitted every two hours, using the international weather code. The reports were transmitted by radio on the 333 Kc frequency. Teletypes were not available. The weather stations received all the radio reports of the other airfields and of the foreign meteorological stations in addition to those of the S FIA Central Weather Bureau. They transmitted the forecasts of the Central Weather Bureau to the air traffic officers. The aerologists composed synoptical weather charts on the basis of the incoming weather reports and made 24 hour forecasts.

6. Second Class Airfields:

These fields are permanently occupied by minor units, such as the GORNA, M. MILVITA, MELISH (B 2/G 12), DOLNA MITROPOLIA (B 2/G 34) fields. The weather stations are not occupied by aerologists, but otherwise have the same personnel as the first class fields and are assigned the same missions except the composition of synoptical charts and the making of weather forecasts.

7. Third Class Airfields:

These are not permanently occupied by air units. Only meteorological observers are stationed there. The fields are equipped with modern German instruments, transmit their reports in the same way as the other airfields, but do not evaluate their observations. They also receive the radio reports of the Central Weather Bureau.

8. Auxiliary airfields have no permanent weather service. In the event of their occupation, meteorological posts are established there; they receive the weather reports by telephone but do not transmit weather reports.

9. The Central Weather Bureau of the Air Force exchanges its observations and data with the Central Meteorological Station located in the Boris P. in SOFIA. The observations of the civil meteorologists are transmitted by telephone to the Central Meteorological Station and the Central Weather Bureau of the Air Force. Civil meteorologists are stationed in the following vicinities.

MILKOV (B 2-L 85), ELISURA (B 2/M 25), KALOFA (B 3/A 65), VARNNA (B 1/A 65), LITVINA (B 11/E 73), DRAGOMIR (B 1/L 09), and SLIVNICA (B 1/E 10). There was a plan that the Central Weather Bureau of the Air Force and the Central Meteorological Station were to be merged in one Weather Directorate under the control of the Directorate for Aviation.

50X1-HUM

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